

### Warm Temperatures

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 31, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. Farmers encountered a wide variety of conditions over the week. Scattered rain showers slowed harvest in some areas, while other locations were able to make decent progress. Gusty winds over the weekend led to concern over lodging in the corn crop and potential damage to late planted soybeans. Temperatures warmed up considerably over the week. Averages ranged from 4 degrees above normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 9 degrees above normal in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Most areas received rainfall over the week, but totals were highly variable depending on location. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.55 inches in the south central Lower Peninsula to 1.14 inches in the northwest Lower Peninsula. A farmer in the Thumb commented, “We didn’t have much for drying weather. It’s keeping us out of the field.” A farmer in the southeast added, “Wheat took off overnight with the moisture and warm temperatures, but harvest is going slow with the wet conditions.”

### Field Crops

Progress reports were mixed across the State. Some farmers were able to make decent harvest progress, while for other growers, inclement weather put a damper on harvesting and fieldwork. Many areas still faced high moisture levels in late planted **corn**. Farmers were delaying harvest in hope that the crop would continue to dry down. Scattered rainfall across the State made **soybean** harvest difficult. Like the corn crop, farmers had made good progress on early plantings, but were now waiting on later planted fields. **Sugarbeet** growers were able to make good progress. **Winter wheat** continued to make good progress. Planting was near completion and the rain over the week helped the crop emerge.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/31/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	1	10	77	12
Subsoil	6	37	54	3

Crop condition for week ending 10/31/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn	2	10	28	43	17
Pasture	7	27	39	24	3
Winter Wheat	3	9	36	44	8

### Fruit

**Apple** growers were involved in orchard cleanup activities and tree trimming throughout the State last week. Overall, Michigan fruit growers had a generally favorable season during 2004. The preliminary “Non-citrus Fruit and Nut Report” will be published by NASS on January 25, 2005.

### Vegetables

Harvest of fall vegetable crops across the State was nearly wrapped up. **Potato** harvest was complete in the southeast and nearing completion in most other districts. **Celery** harvest was nearly finished, with only a few acres left. For most farmers, **pumpkin** picking wrapped up over the weekend. **Carrot** harvest was ongoing. Late **cabbage** looked good.

Crop progress for week ending 10/31/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples, harvested	97	88	NA	NA
Corn, harvested	51	34	39	53
Potatoes, harvested	98	95	NA	NA
Soybeans, harvested	70	65	92	83
Sugarbeets, harvested	68	36	89	78
Winter wheat, planted	98	93	96	96
Winter wheat, emerged	76	56	74	75

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/31/04 <sup>1</sup>												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	66	30		1,893	2,169		0.70	1.80	2.79	27.00		
Marquette	62	27		1,861	2,076		0.50	1.40	2.62	22.42		
Stephenson	64	28		2,234	2,403		0.82	3.01	3.95	23.05		
<b>Western UP</b>	66	26	4	1,964	2,155	2,036	0.62	1.80	2.78	21.31	22.52	2.57
Cornell	62	33		1,961	2,277		0.98	2.14	4.64	24.19		
Sault St Marie	65	35		1,691	1,999		0.55	1.87	4.64	22.65		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	65	32	5	1,738	2,006	1,785	1.04	2.07	4.09	21.53	21.54	2.57
Beulah	69	37		2,315	2,380		1.40	2.91	4.50	25.61		
Lake City	68	35		2,236	2,238		2.00	2.97	4.50	22.35		
Old Mission	70	41		2,241	2,358		0.80	1.98	4.14	23.32		
Pellston	69	27		2,124	2,230		0.76	1.55	3.72	20.04		
<b>Northwest</b>	70	27	7	2,174	2,261	2,339	1.14	2.13	4.01	21.94	20.84	2.75
Alpena	71	36		2,212	2,224		0.20	0.77	2.57	17.91		
Houghton Lake	67	32		2,348	2,364		1.46	1.88	4.21	20.68		
Rogers City	69	34		2,221	2,328		0.97	1.52	3.40	21.31		
<b>Northeast</b>	71	28	6	2,241	2,330	2,259	0.95	1.52	3.37	19.86	20.35	2.40
Fremont	70	37		2,607	2,694		0.38	1.90	3.29	21.14		
Hart	70	37		2,455	2,527		0.57	1.96	3.20	23.36		
Muskegon	72	37		2,640	2,803		0.46	2.30	3.46	24.44		
<b>West Central</b>	72	35	8	2,526	2,612	2,559	0.72	2.19	3.48	24.51	21.04	2.94
Alma	69	40		2,723	2,714		0.72	1.75	2.94	24.22		
Big Rapids	69	37		2,537	2,484		0.72	2.17	4.15	24.82		
<b>Central</b>	69	36	8	2,654	2,596	2,646	0.69	1.88	3.19	23.64	21.51	2.59
Bad Axe	73	46		2,532	2,405		0.70	0.70	2.04	20.38		
Pigeon	71	42		2,506	2,402		0.60	0.77	1.67	21.02		
Saginaw	72	44		2,751	2,666		0.04	0.37	1.32	18.73		
Standish	71	40		2,489	2,373		1.02	1.38	2.30	20.46		
<b>East Central</b>	74	40	8	2,529	2,479	2,661	0.77	1.04	2.15	20.72	19.22	2.41
Fennville	74	37		2,705	2,686		0.68	1.92	2.61	16.86		
Grand Rapids	71	36		2,977	2,777		0.38	1.91	3.79	26.08		
Holland	74	38		2,794	2,773		0.37	1.99	3.28	19.51		
South Bend, IN	76	36		3,169	2,984		0.25	0.74	1.63	25.24		
Watervliet	74	38		2,885	2,726		0.21	1.03	2.44	26.66		
<b>Southwest</b>	77	34	8	2,891	2,798	2,916	0.56	1.66	3.03	24.87	22.49	2.99
Belding	69	36		2,705	2,641		0.66	1.51	3.23	25.84		
Coldwater	70	38		2,817	2,575		0.37	1.14	2.37	25.30		
Lansing	71	37		2,849	2,737		0.40	0.80	1.82	23.89		
<b>South Central</b>	72	35	8	2,844	2,747	2,860	0.55	1.03	2.25	24.56	21.46	2.41
Detroit	75	44		3,188	3,038		0.73	1.01	1.30	21.39		
Flint	72	41		2,892	2,861		1.00	1.11	1.89	20.63		
Romeo	73	38		2,869	2,674		0.59	0.94	2.43	25.99		
Tipton	74	38		2,870	2,713		0.43	0.72	1.78	20.65		
Toledo, OH	75	36		3,228	3,070		0.46	0.91	2.30	20.13		
<b>Southeast</b>	75	35	9	2,923	2,863	2,857	0.71	0.97	2.10	22.70	20.41	2.33

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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